

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05 CIAE-00
PM-03 DODE-00 L-01 SP-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 PRS-01
OIC-01 ACDA-10 /052 W
-----061701Z 085168 /44
R 061435Z APR 77
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2698

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 USNATO 1987

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: NATO PFOR NAC
SUBJ: NATO SUMMIT ARRANGEMENTS: CANADIAN SUGGESTIONS

REF: (A) USNATO 1969, (B) USNATO 1956

1. THERE FOLLOWS THE TEXT OF SPEAKING NOTES ON WHICH CANADIAN REPS DREW AT APRIL 4 AND APRIL 5 DISCUSSIONS OF ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE NATO SUMMIT AND COMMUNIQUE (REFTELS). UK AND OTHER REPS TOOK EXCEPTION TO SOME OF THE CANADIAN SUGGESTION. CANADIAN REPS AGREED NOT TO PRESS THESE PROPOSALS FOR THE SUMMIT, BUT INDICATED THEY WOULD COME BACK TO THEIR PROPOSALS ON ATTENDANCE AND FORMAT IN REGARD TO FUTURE NATO MINISTERIAL MEETINGS.

2. BEGIN TEXT:

(1) TITLE

WE SUGGEST THAT LONDON MEETING MIGHT BE DESIGNATED AS "NATO MINISTERIAL MEETING WITH PARTICIPATION OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT".

(2) ATTENDANCE

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-WE WOULD HOPE THAT ATTENDANCE AT FUTURE COUNCIL MINISTERIAL MEETINGS WILL NOT BE ARBITRARILY RESTRICTED.
-DELEGATION OFFICIALS PRIMARILY RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTING DECISIONS OF MINISTERS SHOULD BE ABLE TO FOLLOW DISCUSSIONS DIRECTLY.
-ARTIFICIAL LIMITS ON ATTENDANCE COMPLICATE THE TASKS OF REPORTING AND OF DRAFTING OF COMMUNIQUE.
-WHAT MAY BE MORE NECESSARY THAN RESTRICTION OF ATTENDANCE IS ADOPTION OF GROUND RULES ON PUBLIC RELATIONS.
-WE APPRECIATE, HOWEVER, THAT THERE WILL BE UNAVOIDABLE SEATING

LIMITATIONS AT LANCASTER HOUSE.

(3) FORMAT

-IT SEEMS TO US DESIRABLE THAT FOR FUTURE COUNCIL MINISTERIAL MEETINGS:

(A) A THOROUGH DISCUSSION TAKE PLACE IN ADVANCE OF EACH MEETING OF PURPOSE TO BE SERVED BY IT, SUBJECTS TO BE COVERED, AND, BY EXTENSION, NATURE OF COMMUNIQUE.

(B) MAIN THEMES OF DISCUSSION BE LIMITED IN NUMBER, AGREED IN ADVANCE, AND APT TO LEAD TO MEANINGFUL EXCHANGE AND IDENTIFIABLE CONCLUSIONS.

(C) SET STATEMENTS COVERING A WIDE ASSORTMENT OF SUBJECTS BE AVOIDED AS FAR AS POSSIBLE, AS THESE USUALLY RESULT IN EXCHANGE THAT LACKS REAL FOCUS AND THAT CAN YIELD LITTLE IN NATURE OF COMMON READING. ACCORDINGLY, WE THINK THAT DESIRABLE SCENARIO FOR LONDON MEETING SHOULD BE ONE WHICH IS NEITHER TOO HIGHLY STRUCTURED TO INHIBIT FREE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS BETWEEN PARTICIPATING HEADS OF GOVERNMENT NOR TOO DIFFUSE TO COME TO GRIPS WITH REAL ISSUES.

(4) POSSIBLE ELEMENTS FOR AGENDA

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-AGENDA OF LONDON MEETING MIGHT BE ELABORATED ALONG FOLLOWING LINES:

(A) INTRODUCTORY STATEMENTS:

(A) REPORT ON DOWNING STREET SUMMIT BY PRIME MINISTER CALLAGHAN.

(B) REPORT ON STATE OF ALLIANCE BY SECRETARY GENERAL.

(B) FIRST DAY (HEADS OF GOVERNMENT)

-ON FIRST DAY, HEADS OF GOVERNMENT AND OTHER PARTICIPANTS WILL PRESUMABLY WISH TO ADDRESS BROAD POLITICAL AND SECURITY ISSUES OF INTEREST TO ALLIANCE AS A WHOLE, SUCH AS:

(A) EAST-WEST RELATIONS, INCLUDING BALANCE OF POWER BETWEEN NORTH ATLANTIC AND WARSAW PACT ALLIANCES; DETENTE; HUMAN RIGHTS; AND WESTERN OBJECTIVES AT BELGRADE CONFERENCE.

(B) ARMS CONTROL AND DISARMAMENT, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO SALT AND MBFR.

(C) SECOND DAY (FOREIGN MINISTERS)

-FOREIGN MINISTERS WILL PRESUMABLE BE EXPECTED ON SECOND DAY TO DEAL WITH A NUMBER OF CURRENT OPERATIONAL QUESTIONS AND APPROVE REPORTS BY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES ON SUCH ITEMS AS:

- MBFR CONFERENCE IN VIENNA.
- PREPARATIONS FOR BELGRADE CONFERENCE.
- REPORT OF SENIOR DISARMAMENT EXPERTS.
- REPORT ON POLITICAL REGIONAL EXPERTS, ETC.

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INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05 CIAE-00
PM-03 DODE-00 L-01 SP-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 PRS-01
OIC-01 ACDA-10 /052 W
-----061700Z 085208 /43

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 USNATO 1987

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(5) COMMUNIQUE

-AS A GENERAL RULE WE THINK THAT BEFORE DRAFTING OF ANY COMMUNIQUE BEGINS, THERE SHOULD BE A DISCUSSION OF ITS PURPOSE AND OF MESSAGES, IF ANY, WHICH IT SHOULD CONVEY TO VARIOUS AUDIENCES.

-WE DO NOT SEE THE NEED FOR MINISTERS TO COMMENT ON THE OCCASION OF EVERY COUNCIL MEETING ON THE WHOLE GAMUT OF INTERNATIONAL ISSUES OF CONCERN TO THE ALLIANCE.

-IN OUR VIEW, THE LONDON MEETING SHOULD PROBABLY ISSUE A COMMUNIQUE RATHER THAN A DECLARATION. AS A MATTER OF PRINCIPLE, DECLARATIONS SHOULD BE RESERVED FOR SITUATIONS CALLING FOR MAJOR POLICY PRONOUNCEMENTS ON THE PART OF THE ALLIANCE.

-SUBSTANCE OF LONDON COMMUNIQUE SHOULD BE SUBJECT OF DISCUSSIONS AT LEVEL OF SENIOR DELEGATION OFFICIALS AT THE END OF THE FIRST DAY TO ENSURE THAT IT WILL CORRECTLY REFLECT THE VIEWS OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT AND OTHER PARTICIPANTS. END TEXT.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 30-Aug-1999 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 06-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977NATO01987
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Expiration:
Film Number: n/a
Format: TEL
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197704102/baaabcuh.tel
Line Count: 156
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Message ID: b3f5b39b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: (A) USNATO 1969, (B) USNATO 1956
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2665201
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NATO SUMMIT ARRANGEMENTS: CANADIAN SUGGESTIONS
TAGS: NATO PFOR NAC
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b3f5b39b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009